

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action that was mailed on April 8, 2002. The amendment to claim 1 is based upon lines 16-18 on ^{#5}page 3 of the specification. The amendment to claim 2 is based upon lines 16-21 on ^{OK}page 3 of the specification. No new matter has been introduced. Claims 1-6 are in the application.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by JP 6329888, WO 95/18179, JP 3-139557, and JP 59-219365. Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by WO 95/18179. Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 6329888, WO 95/18179, JP 3-139557, and JP 59-219365. None of these grounds of rejection is believed to apply to the claims in their current form.

The references upon which the Examiner relies fail to disclose or suggest resin compositions comprising polyamide-based thermoplastic elastomers and glycols or glycol derivatives – as required by (amended claim 1) – or resin compositions comprising polyether amide block copolymers and glycols or glycol derivatives – as required by amended claim 2. Thus the references of record fail even to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness with respect to the present invention, much less anticipate that invention. Moreover, the references of record fail to disclose or suggest the superior effects that are provided by the present invention – effects that are clearly demonstrated by the experimental procedures and results detailed on pages 10-12 of the specification. Accordingly, the rejections should be withdrawn, and the present application should be passed to Issue.

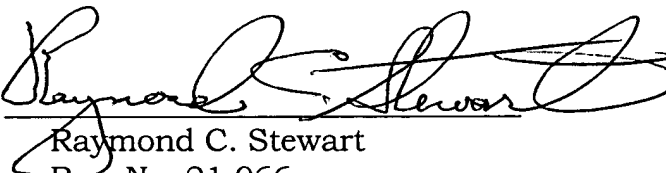
Conclusion

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he is requested to contact Richard Gallagher, Reg. No. 28,781, at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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RL
RCS/RG:gml
Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

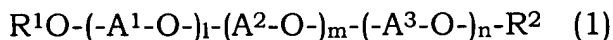
MARKED UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

1. (amended) A resin composition comprising a polyamide-based thermoplastic elastomer and a glycol or its derivative.

2. (amended) A resin composition [according to claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic elastomer is a polyamide- or polyester-based thermoplastic elastomer] comprising a polyether amide block copolymer as a thermoplastic elastomer and a glycol or its derivative.

4. (amended) A resin composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said glycol or its derivative is a compound represented by the following Formula (1):



[[wherein each of R^1 and R^2 is, identical to or different from each other, a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an acyl group; each of A^1 , A^2 and A^3 is, identical to or different from one another, an alkylene group having 2 or more carbon atoms; each of l , m and n is, identical to or different from one another, an integer of 0 or more, where $l+m+n>0$.]]

5. (amended) A resin composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the amount of the glycol or its derivative is from 0.1 to 10 parts by weight relative to 100 parts by weight of the thermoplastic elastomer.

6. (amended) A molded article composed of a resin composition according to claim 1 or 2 [any one of claims 1 to 5].